

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEOUL 03811 080934Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 JUSE-00 SY-05 H-01 CIAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0915

CONFIDENTIAL SEOUL 3811

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV KS US

SUBJ: TONGSUN PARK TRAVEL

REF: STATE 113875

1. IN DISCUSSION WITH POLCOUNS MORNING MAY 8, MOFA'S PAK SANG-YONG STATED THAT TRAVEL PLANS FOR TONGSUN PARK SEEMED TO BE ON TRACK. HE SAID DECISION HAD NOT BEEN MADE YET AS TO WHETHER PARK WOULD ARRIVE IN WASHINGTON ON MAY 17 OR MAY 19. HE ALSO INFORMED POLCOUNS THAT HE HAS WORD FROM WASHINGTON THAT DECISION HAD BEEN MADE TO RELAX SUBSTANTIALLY PERSONAL PROTECTION PROVIDED PARK IF THIS WAS AGREEABLE. IN THIS RESPECT HE SAID THAT PARK WOULD NOT BE MET IN HONOLULU AND, IN FACT, WOULD SELECT HIS OWN ROUTE TO WASHINGTON. IN ADDITION, WHILE IN WASHINGTON, IRS WILLING, THERE WOULD BE NO OBJECTION TO PARK LIVING IN HIS GEORGETOWN HOUSE. POLCOUNS POINTED OUT THAT RELAXED MOOD IN WASHINGTON WAS UNDOUBTEDLY REFLECTION OF COOPERATION ACHIEVED TO DATE IN THIS MATTER.

2. PAK SAID THAT MOFA APPRECIATED EARLIER INFORMATION FROM POLCOUNS THAT USG WOULD ENTERTAIN POSSIBILITY OF TONGSUN PARK TRAVEL TO THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. HOWEVER, AT THIS JUNCTURE THE ROKG FELT IT BEST TO IMPLEMENT EXPLICITLY AGREEMENT UNDERTAKEN IN MOU AND RESTRICT PARK'S TRAVEL UNTIL ALL ASPECTS OF CASE HAD BEEN COMPLETED.

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THEREFORE, IT WOULD NOT WISH TO SEE TONGSUN PARK TRAVEL TO THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC INCIDENT TO A VISIT TO THE U.S.

3. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE INFORMATION ON NEGOTIATIONS FOR ARRIVAL DATE, INCLUDING DATE FINALLY SELECTED. FURTHER, CAN WASHINGTON CONFIRM RELAXED SECURITY REPORT RECEIVED AND THAT TONGSUN PARK NEED NOT TRANSIT HONOLULU

ENROUTE TO WASHINGTON?

SNEIDER

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NNN

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